App. No. 10/811,234
Amendment Dated: February 5, 2007
Reply to Final Office Action of December 4, 2006

Amendments to the Claims:

1 - 27 (Cancelled)

28 (Currently amended):   A computer-implemented   method   for   formulaically bounding an application cell to a range of values, the method comprising:

associating a bounding formula with an application cell, wherein the bounding formula includes a predetermined range of permitted values,

wherein the bounding formula includes at least one member of a group comprising: a type argument, a bound maximum argument, and a bound minimum argument,

wherein the type argument includes at least one member of a group comprising: a range of permitted values associated with an inclusive bound type argument, and a range of permitted values associated with an exclusive bound type argument;

receiving a value associated with the application cell;

determining whether the received value is within the predetermined range of permitted values of the bounding formula;

permitting the received value when the received value is within the predetermined range of permitted values of the bounding formula; and

automatically changing the received value to a value within the predetermined range of permitted values of the bounding formula when the received value is outside the predetermined range of permitted values of the bounding formula.

29 (Previously presented):   The computer-implemented method of claim 28, wherein the application cell includes at least one member of a group comprising: a spreadsheet application cell and a drawing application cell.

30-31 (Cancelled)

32 (Previously presented):   The computer-implemented method of claim 28, wherein the received value is associated with at least one member of a group of members comprising: a user input value and a value resulting from a formulaic computation associated with the application cell.

33 (Previously presented):   The computer-implemented method of claim 28, wherein the bounding formula includes a disable argument for disabling the bounding formula when the disable argument is designated.

34 (Currently amended):   The computer-implemented method of claim 28, wherein automatically changing the received value to a value within the predetermined range of permitted values includes automatically changing the received value to a value within the predetermined range of values that is closest to the received value.

35 (Previously presented):   The system of claim 28, wherein the bounding formula includes a value argument.

36 (Currently amended):   The computer-implemented method of claim 28, wherein the predetermined range of values of the bounding formula is an inclusive range of values, wherein the received value is not within the inclusive range of values, wherein automatically changing the received value further includes:

determining a value within the inclusive range of values that is closest to the received value, and

automatically changing the received value to the value within the inclusive range of values that is closest to the received value.

37 (Currently amended):   The computer-implemented method of claim 28, wherein the bounding formula includes an exclusive type argument, wherein the predetermined range of permitted values includes values outside a defined range of values associated with the exclusive

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type argument, wherein the received value is within the defined range of values associated with the exclusive type argument, wherein automatically changing the received value further includes:

determining a value within the range of permitted values that is closest to the received value, and

automatically changing the received value to the value within the range of permitted values that is closest to the received value.

38 (Currently amended):   A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions for providing an object bounding formula for automatically changing a received object value to conform to a range of permitted values associated with the object bounding formula, the instructions comprising:

binding an object with the object bounding formula, wherein the object bounding formula includes a predetermined range of permitted values, wherein the object is bound by the predetermined range of permitted values;

receiving a value associated with the object;

determining whether the value is within the predetermined range of permitted values of the object bounding formula;

permitting the received value when the received value is within the predetermined range of permitted values of the object bounding formula; and

automatically changing the received value to a closest value within the predetermined range of permitted values when the received value is outside the predetermined range of permitted values.

39 (Previously presented):   The computer-readable medium of claim 38, wherein the object includes at least one member of a group comprising: a spreadsheet object and a drawing object.

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40 (Previously presented):   The computer-readable medium of claim 38, wherein the object bounding formula includes at least one member of a group comprising: a type argument, a bound maximum argument, and a bound minimum argument.

41 (Currently amended):   The computer-implemented method of claim 38, wherein the predetermined range of permitted values includes at least one member of a group comprising: a range of permitted values associated with an inclusive bound type argument, and a range of permitted values associated with an exclusive bound type argument.

42 (Previously presented):   The computer-implemented method of claim 38, wherein the received value is associated with at least one member of a group of members comprising: a user input value and a value resulting from a formulaic computation associated with the application cell.

43 (Previously presented):   The computer-implemented method of claim 38, wherein the bounding formula includes a disable argument for disabling the bounding formula when the disable argument is designated.

44 (Previously presented):   The system of claim 38, wherein the bounding formula includes a value argument.

45 (Currently amended):   The computer-readable medium of claim 38, wherein the predetermined range of values of the object bounding formula is an inclusive range of values, wherein the received value is not within the inclusive range of values, wherein automatically changing the received value further includes:

determining a value within the inclusive range of values that is closest to the received value, and

automatically changing the received value to the value within the inclusive range of values that is closest to the received value.

46 (Currently amended):   The computer-readable medium of claim 38, wherein the object bounding formula includes an exclusive type argument, wherein the predetermined range of permitted values includes values outside a range of values associated with the exclusive type argument, wherein the received value is within the range of values associated with the exclusive type argument, wherein automatically changing the received value further includes:

determining a value within the range of permitted values that is closest to the received value, and

automatically changing the received value to a value within the range of permitted values that is closest to the received value.

47 (Currently amended):   A computing system for formulaically bounding a cell in a spreadsheet, the system comprising:

a processor;

a memory having computer-executable instructions associated therewith, wherein the computer-executable instructions are configured to:

provide a spreadsheet cell for receiving a value;

bind the spreadsheet cell with a cell bounding formula, wherein the cell bounding formula includes a predetermined range of values associated with a bounding class;

receive a value associated with the spreadsheet cell;

apply the received value to the cell bounding formula to determine whether the received value is associated with the predetermined range of values associated with the bounding class;

automatically permit the received value when the received value is associated with the predetermined range of values associated with the bounding class; and

automatically change the value to a closest value of the predetermined range of values associated with the bounding class when the received value is not

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associated with the predetermined range of values associated with the bounding class.

48 (Previously presented):   The system of claim 47, wherein the bounding formula includes at least one member of a group comprising: a type argument, a bound maximum argument, and a bound minimum argument.

49 (Previously presented):   The system of claim 47, wherein the bounding class includes at least one member comprising: an inclusive bounding class and an exclusive bounding class.

50 (Previously presented):   The system of claim 47, wherein the received value is associated with at least one member of a group of members comprising: a user input value and a value resulting from a formulaic computation associated with the spreadsheet cell.

51 (Previously presented):   The computer-implemented method of claim 47, wherein the bounding formula includes a disable argument for disabling the bounding formula when the disable argument is designated.

52 (Previously presented):   The system of claim 47, wherein the bounding formula includes a value argument.

53 (Currently amended):   The system of claim 47, wherein the predetermined range of values of the bounding formula is associated with an inclusive bounding class, wherein the received value is not within the inclusive bounding class, wherein automatically changing the received value further includes:
        determining a value within the inclusive bounding class that is closest to the received value, and

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automatically changing the received value to the value within the inclusive bounding class that is closest to the received value.

54 (Currently amended):   The system of claim 47, wherein the bounding formula includes an exclusive bounding class, wherein the predetermined range of permitted values includes values outside the exclusive bounding class, wherein the received value is within the exclusive bounding class, wherein automatically changing the received value further includes:

determining a value within the range of permitted values that is closest to the received value, and

automatically changing the received value to the value within the range of permitted values that is closest to the received value.